the Special Task Force (STF) operations. Both the State Government had requested the Central Government tor providing assistance to supplement and improve their resources in the conduct of operations against Veerappan and his gang. As per their request the Central Government provided necessary assistance by way of deployment of BSF supply of weaponry and equipment, etc.

Amendment of Article 371

*240. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government has sought amendment of the Constitution to bring the State under Article 371 to expedite the development works in seven backward districts of North Karnataka;

(b) which are the States already notified under Article 371; and

(c) will be Government take steps to bring Karnataka under Article 371?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) A proposal has been received from the State Government of Karnataka to amend the Constitution to provide for special provisions in respect of Karnataka under Article 371 of the Constitution. The State Government have been asked for certain clarifications on their proposal.

The States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Nagaland, Assam, Manipur, Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and Goa are covered under the Provisions of Article 371 of the Constitution.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Budgetary Support for the Development of North-Eastern States

1665. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has chalked out its own Action Plan for the progress of North-Eastern Region and removal of industrial backwardness there, keeping in view the directive issued by the Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission to all the Ministries including Ministry of Coal and Mines for spending 10 per cent of gross budgetary support for development of North- Eastern States; and